## LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF COLORADO

Greetings League Members,

January has been especially busy. After months of preparation, the Election Security Position Committee held a <u>Consensus Meeting on January 22</u>. All Colorado members were invited. <u>Position</u> <u>information</u> was made available on the state website, including 13 questions which were used to poll participants and gather input for the committee to use during the editing process. Over 120 members signed up to attend the meeting. Thank you to those who attended and for the valuable input you provided. Poll results, along with all chat comments, were saved for the committee. Due to some confusion — we weren't as clear as needed on the internet ballot return question — the committee drafted a new poll question emailed to members Monday afternoon. Poll results and comments received will be used in editing the initial draft position. We are also hoping to meet with other stakeholders to gather their input.

Next steps? A follow-up special membership meeting is scheduled for February 7 at 6:30 pm to vote on the revised position. All Colorado members are invited; <u>click here to register</u>. The revised position will be sent to members before the meeting and will also be available at <u>lwvcolorado.org</u>. As you review it, I urge you to keep in mind that while most points in the position, including the need for paper ballots, received overwhelming support at Consensus, some points balance the two halves of the League's mission: Empowering voters. Defending democracy. The League has spent decades lobbying for expanded voting, educating voters, and then rallying those voters to Get Out the Vote. How do we continue to support that mission while safeguarding the election process? It sometimes involves compromise to achieve both. Please consider that balance when deciding how you will vote.

This month's Board Briefings includes two documents I hope you will give particular attention. At the January meeting, the Board unanimously approved a "<u>Resolution to the League of Women Voters of the United States</u>" requesting guidance as we prepare for the upcoming November election. Local League members had also contacted Beth and me with similar requests. The resolution was emailed this past Wednesday with a prompt response Wednesday evening stating that the LWVUS CEO and Chief of Staff would be discussing it during their next group call. We'll keep you apprised of their response.

On Sunday, we received an email requesting that LWVCO respond to the vote and amendments on <u>Colorado House Resolution 22-1004 Concerning Urging Congress to Adopt Comprehensive Voting</u> <u>Rights Legislation</u>. Because the vote and amendments to the Colorado Senate's matching bill <u>Memorial</u> <u>22-1</u> were nearly identical, the LWVCO Board opted to send a letter to both bodies; A LETTER TO THE COLORADO STATE <u>SENATE</u> (copy: <u>HOUSE</u>) is our response. While LWVCO can send a statement to Colorado legislators, it is often the messages they receive from their own constituents that make the greatest impact. Please consider contacting your representative telling them how you feel about their vote (<u>House vote is here</u>; <u>Senate vote is here</u>.) It's often easy to dismiss the value of a single phone call or email, but when you multiply the Power of One ... League history is an ongoing demonstration of that power, so consider raising your voice. I intend to contact mine.

In League,

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Karen Sheek President, LWVCO